

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/065,261	CHENG ET AL.	
	Examiner Neveen Abel-Jalil	Art Unit 2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to October 29, 2004.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3.  The drawings filed on September 30, 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
 of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**CHARLES RONES**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Remarks*

1. In response to the amendment filed on 29-October-2005, claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

### *Reasons for Allowance*

2. Claims 1-11 are allowed over the prior art made of record.

3. The following is a statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record (Greene et al. -U.S. Patent No. 6,434,662 B1) does not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim), a result bus operationally connecting said memory to said controller and able to communicate said search result from said memory to said controller, thereby permitting the search engine to function in a multi-way set-associative manner wherein the size of said memory is not a function of the degree of multi-way set-associativity, as claimed in Independent claims 1, and 5.

Claims 2-4, and 6-8 are allowed over the prior art made of record, because they are dependent from the allowable independent claims 1, and 5, respectively.

The prior art of record (Greene et al. -U.S. Patent No. 6,434,662 B1) does not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim), comparing said input search value and said stored search values in said instances of the search

results retrieved in said step (d) to determine whether a respective hash collision has occurred, wherein a presumably usable said instance of the search results is one wherein a hash collision has not occurred, thereby searching the database in a multi-way set-associative manner wherein the size of the database is not a function of the degree of multi-way set-associativity, as claimed in Independent claim 9.

Claims 10-11 are allowed over the prior art made of record, because they are dependent from the allowable independent claim 9.

***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neveen Abel-Jalil whose telephone number is 571-272-4074. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5: 30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 571-272-4038. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Neveen Abel-Jalil  
February 21, 2005

*C. Rones*  
**CHARLES RONES**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**